



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

November 15, 2007

The Honorable Fabian Núñez
Speaker
California State Assembly
State Capitol
Post Office Box 942849
Sacramento, California 94249-0046

The Honorable Don Perata
President pro Tempore
California State Senate
State Capitol
Room 205
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Michael Villines
Republican Leader
California State Assembly
State Capitol
Room 3104
Sacramento, California 94249-0029

The Honorable Dick Ackerman
Republican Leader
California State Senate
State Capitol
Room 305
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Speaker Núñez, Senator Perata, Mr. Villines and Senator Ackerman,

The recent oil spill in the San Francisco Bay is yet another disaster with tremendous environmental and economic impacts for the immediate area and the state. It is our responsibility to determine its causes and to take every step necessary to ensure changes are made, whether they be federal, state or local, to ensure something like this does not happen again.

As I did with the Southern California wildfires, I will work to evaluate local, state and federal prevention efforts with respect to oil spills in California's harbors. To this end, I have ordered thorough investigations be conducted by all appropriate state entities, and I have offered the state's full cooperation with any federal investigations regarding this emergency. Although we must wait for these investigations to be complete, I do not believe it is too early to start looking at potential policy changes. Ideas I am considering include:

- Operational changes and restrictions for vessels entering and leaving the San Francisco Bay during inclement weather conditions. Examples include speed limit restrictions, tugboat escorts and fog sailing limits.
- Improvements in the navigational tools and information available to vessels entering and leaving the San Francisco Bay. Examples include improvements to the Vessel Traffic Service System and the Physical Oceanographic Real Time System.
- Changes to crew staffing requirements during inclement weather conditions.

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I welcome your thoughts regarding these issues and any others that might arise as a result of the state and federal investigations of this disaster. I look forward to working with you as we develop appropriate administrative and legislative responses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arnold Schwarzenegger", written in a cursive, stylized script. The signature is positioned above the printed name.

Arnold Schwarzenegger